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ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

E-01345A-12-0290 E-01345A-10-0394 E-01933A-12-0296 E-04204A-12-0297

June 11, 2013

Stanley & Gladys Whitecomb 73.54 E. Quail Track Rd. Scottsdale, AZ 85266-7605

Dear Stanley & Gladys,

I received the letter that you sent to me and would like to thank you for sharing your concerns about Net metering with me. The Commission has not received an application from APS regarding Net metering. Technical conferences have been held about this issue. The Commission will be holding hearings on this issue later this year. Scheduling of these hearings will be announced later this summer.

For more information, please look on our website. www.azcc.gov Please feel free to contact my office for more information at (602) 542-3625.

Sincerely

Susan Bitter Smith Commissioner

Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

JUN 1 2 2013

BOOKETED BY

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Commissioner Susan Bitter Smith Arizona Corporation Commission 1300 W. Washington St. Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Commissioner Smith:

There have been several recent news stories in the local media regarding APS pursuing a change to the credit given solar customers for excess power generated. In particular, we noted some details in the May 16, 2013 edition of the Business Section of the <u>Arizona Republic</u>. We wish to disagree strongly with the APS position as we understand it.

We moved into a 15 year old home in north Scottsdale with a flat roof last May. We decided to install a "whole house" solar system and it was "commissioned" by APS in September. The total cost was approx. \$34,800, partially offset by a \$10,400 federal tax credit, \$1,000 State tax credit, and \$4,620 rebate from APS (which we understand is a taxable event). Even with all that, the payback on the system is calculated at 8.5 years (not a particularly good investment for a capital item). In addition, we were told by our contractor that the panels begin to degrade at about 15 years, and may need to be replaced around 20 years out.

Your Commission set the "rule" that APS needs 15% of their power to be generated by renewable resources by 2025. If this rule and the incentives were not in place, no one would do it. We need the current credit structure to make this work financially. If APS is successful in their bid to lower the credit, and if we had known this in advance, we would never have made this investment. It is simply unfair to change the rules after the investment is made. We are asking you to do the right thing in refusing to lower any credit APS provides to their solar customers.

Very truly yours,

Stanley R/Whitcomb 7354 E. Quail Track Rd

Scottsdale, AZ 85266-7605

Stanley R. Whiteomb

COMMISSIONERS
BOB STUMP - Chairman
GARY PIERCE
BRENDA BURNS
BOB BURNS
SUSAN BITTER SMITH



SUSAN BITTER SMITH Commissioner

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

June 11, 2013

Candace K. Lawson 3125 N. 159th Avenue Goodyear, AZ 85395

Dear Candace,

I received the letter that you sent to me and would like to thank you for sharing your concerns about Net metering with me. The Commission has not received an application from APS regarding Net metering. Technical conferences have been held about this issue. The Commission will be holding hearings on this issue later this year. Scheduling of these hearings will be announced later this summer.

For more information, please look on our website. <u>www.azcc.gov</u> Please feel free to contact my office for more information at (602) 542-3625.

Sincere

Susan Bitter Smith Commissioner

Candace K. Lawson 3125 N. 159th Avenue Goodyear, AZ 85395

June 3, 2013

Susan Bitter Smith Arizona Corporation Commission Commissioners Wing 1200 W. Washington Phoenix, AZ 85007-2996

Dear Ms. Smith,

I am a solar owner, solar supporter, a voter and a utility customer. I am writing to urge you to protect net metering.

Net metering is one of the most important policy tools the Commission has for empowering homes, businesses, schools and public agencies to go solar and it was promised to us by the utility companies who were urging people to install solar.

Utilities in the state are trying to make the case that Arizona should change its successful net metering program and I am highly concerned that this could result in not properly compensating net metered customers for their valuable energy investment.

Home and business owners expend their own capital to install systems that provide a myriad of benefits to the grid and other ratepayers. Net metering also allows utility customers to make their own individual choice about where they get their electricity, what type of electricity they want and how much they are willing to pay for it.

Of the over 800 homes in the PebbleCreek community of Goodyear, I would imagine about 800 of them have invested retirement savings in their solar power installations as we did. It seems unfair that the utility companies are allowed to change the game rules now. I <u>URGE</u> you to protect net- metering.

Sincerely,

Candace K. Lawson

Goodyear, AZ "Arizona Solar Community"

Candace K. Lauron

COMMISSIONERS
BOB STUMP - Chairman
GARY PIERCE
BRENDA BURNS
BOB BURNS
SUSAN BITTER SMITH



SUSAN BITTER SMITH Commissioner

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

June 11, 2013

Ernest and Eileen Bump 13231 W. Hyacinth Drive Sun City West, AZ 85373

Dear Ernest and Eileen,

I received the letter that you sent to me and would like to thank you for sharing your concerns about Net metering with me. The Commission has not received an application from APS regarding Net metering. Technical conferences have been held about this issue. The Commission will be holding hearings on this issue later this year. Scheduling of these hearings will be announced later this summer.

For more information, please look on our website. www.azcc.gov Please feel free to contact my office for more information at (602) 542-3625.

Sincere/

Susan Bitter Smith Commissioner

Ernest and Eileen Bump

13231 W. Hyacinth Dr.

Sun City West, AZ 85373

Dear Mrs. Susan Bitter Smith:

My husband and I are solar owners and we are writing to urge you to protect net metering.

Net metering is the billing that ensures solar customers receive fair credit for the valuable clean power they deliver to the grid for others to use during the daytime. It is one of the most important policy tools the Commission has for empowering homes, businesses, schools, and public agencies to go solar.

Utilities in the state are trying to make the case that Arizona should change its successful net metering program and we are highly concerned that this could result in not properly compensating net-metered customers for their valuable energy investment.

We have expended our own capital to benefit ourselves, our neighbors, and the environment. Net metering has also allowed us to make a choice about where we get our electricity from and how much we are willing to pay for it.

I urge you to protect net metering. It also saves the electric companies from building new plants and polluting the environment.

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Sincerely,

Ernest and Eileen Bump

Ernest and Eileen Bump

COMMISSIONERS
BOB STUMP - Chairman
GARY PIERCE
BRENDA BURNS
BOB BURNS
SUSAN BITTER SMITH



SUSAN BITTER SMITH Commissioner

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

June 11, 2013

John Coccia 19925 N. Turquoise Pt. Surprise, AZ 85387

Dear John,

I received the letter that you sent to me and would like to thank you for sharing your concerns about Net metering with me. The Commission has not received an application from APS regarding Net metering. Technical conferences have been held about this issue. The Commission will be holding hearings on this issue later this year. Scheduling of these hearings will be announced later this summer.

For more information, please look on our website. <u>www.azcc.gov</u> Please feel free to contact my office for more information at (602) 542-3625.

Sincerely

Susan Bitter Smith Commissioner

19925 N Turquoise Pt Surprise, AZ 85387 PH 623-271-6896 Email - bertern@yahoo.com June 3, 2013

Dear Susan.

After moving to the West Valley in 2007, my wife and I decided to invest in renewable energy systems to take advantage of the bountiful Arizona sunshine. We decide to purchase both the hot water and electricity systems at a cost of around \$48,000. The various incentives took care of about \$30,000 which resulted in our investment of around \$18,000. The system was projected to save us around 70% of our utility costs, which it does. Our annual savings is running around \$1,200 to \$1,300 per year. This would put our recovery at about 12 to 13 years.

I understand that APS is now having a change of heart and requesting a change in the net metering program. Quite honestly, I feel it is a betrayal to the customers who were encouraged to participate in the programs. As a customer, I feel somewhat akin to a lamb being led to the slaughter!

Now what has the Arizona Corporation Commission done for me as a user of products and services controlled by monopolies? The scariest comment I heard a commissioner make was that he would make the best decision that was allowed by the statutes in existance". Wow! Where do I find these statutes? I wonder if our representatives had help from the utilities in developing them?

Please consider the following comparisons from when I moved to the valley and now. Any error is purely unintentional.

Water - now this is a beaut!! A favorable rate increase was given despite the fact that the increase in costs was due to a gross error on the part of management and government. As the economy improves, can we expect rates to go down? Sure!

Basic service	UP	117%
4,000 gal	UP	88%
Over 4,000 gal	UP	89%

Gas Service

Basic service UP 10% Per therm UP 84% **Electricity**

Basic Service Charge UP 12.9% Dely Service Charge UP 9%

INCOME Social Security & Pensions

2008 49,824

2012 52,952

Total increase

6.30%

Increase per year

1.26%

Hopefully you can see the difficulties seniors face with utilities increasing at the rates they are and incomes of seniors not keeping pace by any stretch of the imagination. I'm sure that lip service will be given on the scrutiny you give to the requests but I'm also sure the utilities will get what they want.

If they want 5%, they'll ask for 10 and everyone will feel good when a settlement is reached at 6%. Been there, done that!

After all this, the bottom line is that I am totally against any change to the current program for anyone who has already made the investment in renewable energy. Anything else is unethical and immoral. Your support for my position would be appreciated.

Sincerely,

John Coccia